

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 PC-04 OMB-01 CIEP-03 DRC-01 IO-14

/139 W

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P R 031300Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4962

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, NU

SUBJECT: ELECTIONS 1974: NO OAS REPRESENTATIVES ON
ELECTION DAY

1. ONE PROVISION OF THE LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE PACT CONCLUDED BY FERNANDO AGUERO AND ANASTASIO SOMOZA IN 1971 WAS THE REQUIREMENT THAT UP TO 200 OBSERVERS FROM THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES BE INVITED FOR THE ELECTIONS IN 1974. THIS PROVISION WAS LATER WANTED DOWN WITH THE CONSENT OF EDMUNDO PAGUAGA WHO REPLACED AGUERO IN THE CONSERVATIVE POSITION ON THE NATIONAL GOVERNING CONCIL. AS INCORPORATED INTO THE NEW CONSTITUTION, THE OBLIGATORY NATURE OF THE PROVISION WAS REMOVED TO SIMPLY AUTHORIZE THE GON TO INVITE SUCH OBSERVERS FROM THE OAS.

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2. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK THAT THE GON HAS INVITED SOME

THIRTEEN OBSERVERS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE TO BE PRESENT FOR THE ELECTIONS. AT FIRST IT WAS REPORTED THAT THESE WERE OAS OBSERVERS, HOWEVER, THE HEAD OF THE OAS MISSION IN NICARAGUA STATED IN AN INTERVIEW ON AUGUST 29 THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE IN NO WAY CONNECTED WITH THE OAS.

3. EDMUNDO PAGUAGA WHEN ASKED IN A RADIO INTERVIEW IF HE TOOK

EXCEPTION TO THE FAILURE TO BRING OAS OBSERVERS TO NICARAGUA FOR THE ELECTIONS STATED THAT THE GON HAD LIVED UP TO ITS AGREEMENT; HE KNEW FOR A FACT THAT THE OBSERVERS HAD BEEN INVITED. HE REFUSED FURTHER COMMENT, BUT WE CONCLUDE THAT THE OAS DECLINED THE GON'S INVITATION TO SEND OBSERVERS.

4. THE PRIVATE CITIZENS INVITED ARE ALREADY IN NICARAGUA OR WILL ARRIVE BY SATURDAY, AUGUST 31. THEY REPORTEDLY INCLUDE ONE PERSON FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES: BRAZIL, PARAGUAY, URUGUAY, ECUADOR, PERU, HAITI, HONDURAS, GUATEMALA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND EL SALVADOR. IN ADDITION, THEY INCLUDE TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS, DR WILLIAM SANDERS AND JOHN DAHLGREN, AND ONE HAITIAN EXILE, THE FORMER CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, GUILLERMO BELT WHO LIVES IN WASHINGTON.

5. VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, JULIO ALEGRIA, EMPHASIZED TO EMBASSY OFFICER THAT ALTHOUGH THESE MEN ARE GUESTS OF THE GON, THEY ARE HERE SIMPLY TO WATCH (PRESENCIAR) THE ELECTION, AND WILL NOT ACT AS OFFICIAL OBSERVERS.

SHELTON

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